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ABSTRACT

In this report are described projects and activities undertaken by ACTION's volunteer programs in 1974. After an introduction that notes accomplishments of the past year, a review of domestic operations discusses such programs as VISTA, University Year for ACTION, National Student Volunteer Program, Foster Grandparent Program, and others according to the 10 regions of the country. The next section on international operations focuses on Peace Corps activities in Africa, Latin America, and North Africa, Near East, Asia and the Pacific. Multilateral programs under the responsibility of the Office of Multilateral and Special Programs and the School Partnership Program are then briefly considered. A financial statement is provided. (YLB)

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ACTION 1974 ANNUAL REPORT

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Peace Corps
Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA)
University Year for ACTION (UYA)
National Student Volunteer Program (NSVP)
Foster Grandparent Program
Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)
Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)
Active Corps of Executives (ACE)
Senior Companion Program
Special Volunteer Programs

ANNUAL REPORT
FISCAL YEAR 1974

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The SIX GOALS of ACTION

- To mobilize volunteers to participate in the innovative efforts of state and local governments, communities and institutions to solve local social and economic problems, particularly by strengthening and supplementing efforts toward helping the poor to overcome the handicaps of poverty.

- To support those programs of local governments, communities and institutions which will call upon volunteers to demonstrate new ways of solving community problems, particularly those related to poverty, and will lead to a continuing effort supported by local resources.

- To increase the participation in volunteer, anti-poverty and other community improvement projects of the full range of community organizations.

- To stimulate interest by the local citizenry to join in the efforts to solve local problems, particularly those related to poverty, and to generate such interest by allowing local citizens greater input into the design and operation of programs.

- To increase the relevance of volunteer activity to efforts to solve the problems of local communities, particularly those related to poverty, by generating and utilizing greater numbers of community volunteers serving in their own communities and drawn from all quarters of the community.

- To create and stimulate new approaches to voluntarism which demonstrate the potential of volunteers as a resource for the solution of problems arising out of poverty and other human needs.

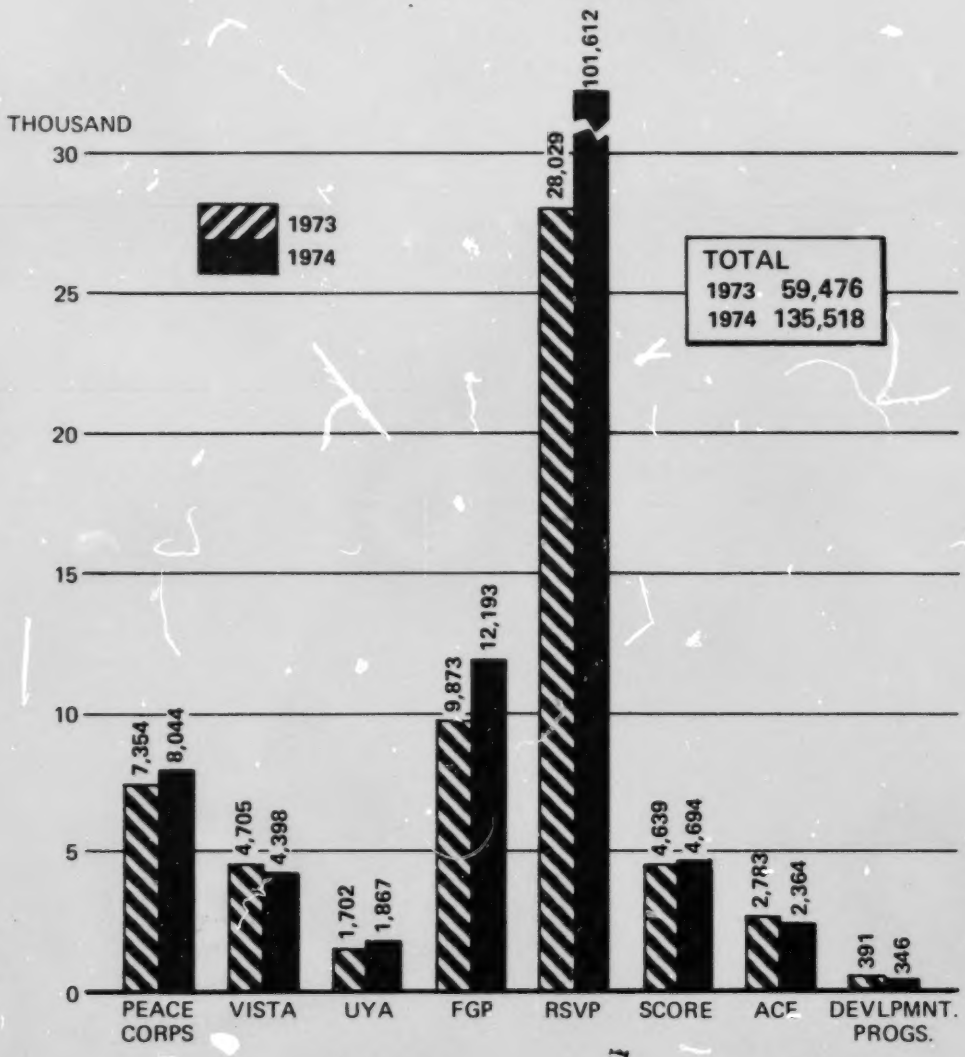
INTRODUCTION by MIKE BALZANO, DIRECTOR

In these pages last year, three months after I had become Director of ACTION, I described the initiatives we had taken to move us toward the solution of some of the pressing problems facing the nation. Central to this task was the formulation of a set of goals for the agency and a mechanism to reach these goals.

I am pleased and proud to report that during FY 1974 we have surpassed all expectations toward achieving those goals.

- Through the passage of Public Law 93-113, the Domestic Volunteer Service Act, we have one authority governing all ACTION domestic programs and providing the authority for new innovative efforts in the delivery of volunteer services.
- We have redesigned our programming mechanism to give local communities more input into the design and operation of their programs.
- Through our Special Volunteer Programs (SVP)—ACTION City Program, Program for Local Service, Mini-Grant Program, Vetreach, City/County/Regional Program, State Volunteer Services Coordinator Program, ACTION Cooperative Volunteer Program and Administration in Justice—we have given many communities the necessary stimulus to begin to establish priorities and set up their own programs for social action using a variety of community volunteer resources.
- We have sent Peace Corps volunteers into six additional countries for a total of 69 countries, the most in Peace Corps history. The Peace Corps' involvement in Africa's drought-striken Sahel is especially noteworthy.
- We have increased the participation of labor organizations, private industry and community groups previously not represented in ACTION programs.
- Because of the increasing popularity of ACTION programs we have been able to generate millions of dollars in contributions to ACTION from both international and domestic sources, as this report will document.
- Because of all of these efforts we have more than doubled our number of domestic volunteers, and increased the number of Peace Corps Volunteers. Our fastest growing domestic program, RSVP, has more than tripled its nation-wide membership during the past year.

ACTION Volunteers and Trainees FY 1973—1974



Let me note just a few of the steps we took over the year to reach these goals.

First, in order to create an understanding of the programmatic changes I envisioned for the agency, six ACTION Institutes were held. A cross section of employees from secretaries to the highest presidential appointees met in the field for one-week seminars. Program officers in the field had an opportunity, many for the first time, to exchange views and discuss problems in detail with headquarters staff who for years had been just names on paper or, at best, voices on the phone.

There were several objectives of the seminars:

- To explain the new directions for the agency;
- To promote an understanding of the problems facing anti-poverty agencies, and to outline what agencies like ours had to do to survive in the 70's;
- To explain the need to broaden the scope of the problems we could address and to broaden the base of those we serve and those who wanted to serve,
- To explore new techniques for generating new national and local non-federal resources.

All evidence indicates the institutes were successful. Empirical data verifies that morale and expectations for the agency's future hit an unprecedented high among all employees attending.

We took another significant step which has had a tremendous impact on our staff capabilities and our ability to place better qualified volunteers in the field. This was the installation of a new in-house training system which provides integrated training in all our domestic programs for volunteers, supervisors, sponsors and field staff at a cost less than that of VISTA training alone the previous year.

We have almost completed the first totally integrated system designed to provide program officers and sponsors with one simplified programming formula for all programs.

We have had many more success stories in the agency this year. You will find them detailed in this report.

Last year I told all of our employees, "One year from now ACTION will be a totally different agency."

ACTION *is* a different agency today. We have grown in size, and we have been innovative in our programs. Moreover, we have demonstrated that we can be a positive force for social change that is compatible with local standards of conduct. We have earned the respect of

communities across the country. Our all-inclusive definition of the community and our insistence on harmony and cooperation have resulted in invitations for ACTION to re-enter communities from which our programs had been ejected in the past.

Based on our record, and because we have kept our promises, ACTION has earned the respect and trust of the communities we serve. We will survive as an anti-poverty agency because we have learned that community support is the key to both survival and success.

Mike Balzano

Mike Balzano visits the Little Folks Day Care Center in East Boston.

DOMESTIC OPERATIONS

The Office of Domestic and Anti-Poverty Operations (DO) administers ACTION programs operating within all 50 states, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam and the Virgin Islands.

The domestic programs for which it is responsible are Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA), University Year for ACTION (UYA), National Student Volunteer Program (NSVP), Foster Grandparent Program, Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), Active Corps of Executives (ACE), Senior Companion Program and Special Volunteer Programs. ACTION volunteers in these programs bring their skills and experience to bear on the urgent human, economic, environmental and social problems facing America's disadvantaged.

From a crafts cooperative in rural Maine staffed by VISTA volunteers to a spastic children's center in Los Angeles relying on the services of Foster Grandparents, RSVP and UYA volunteers, their commitment is the same: ACTION volunteers are devoted to helping people help themselves.

THE FRAMEWORK

On July 1, 1974, ACTION began its fourth year as the federal government's volunteer service agency. The past fiscal year will prove very important to ACTION's future. During this time, ACTION laid the philosophical and procedural foundation upon which the agency will build for years to come.

ACTION celebrated two major events during FY 1974 which will affect all levels of domestic program operation: the articulation of the ACTION goals through the Integrated Planning and Training System and the signing into law of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act. Collectively, the goals and the act represent ACTION's charter. The goals are ACTION's formal statement of how the promotion and expansion of voluntarism in America should be achieved. The act instructs ACTION how to carry out its programs.

To insure that staff understood the new ACTION goals, the agency held six ACTION institutes, attended by 425 domestic program staff members. ACTION Director Mike Balzano visited each institute to explain the vital new direction the agency was taking and to discuss with participants their hopes and concerns about their work.

Then in order to achieve the goals, ACTION designed an Integrated Planning and Training System (IPTS), combining the elements of sound programming and training with a simplified and streamlined management system. While retaining the individual identity of each program, ACTION has drawn from the collective experience of all its volunteer components to structure the IPTS.

An IPTS task force developed a single programming system which includes one standard set of documents replacing all duplicatory items formerly in use, a manual containing IPTS policies and a new training system.

The IPTS will reduce the time needed for assistance coordination and delivery, provide on-going monitoring of all ACTION

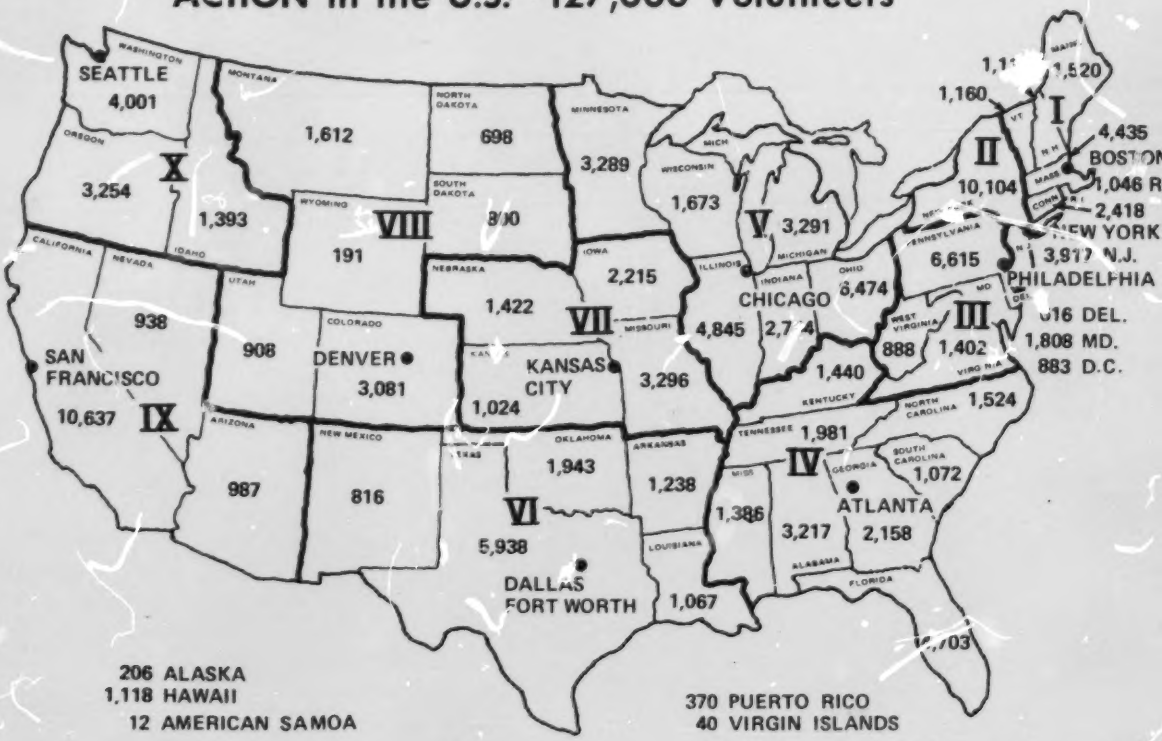
projects, eliminate redundant data requirements and standardize many of the previously confusing lines of authority. Policy manuals were distributed to ACTION's ten regions during the spring of 1974 and the system will be fully operational by October, 1974.

Congressional passage of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act on Oct. 1, 1973, required a number of changes in existing policies and procedures. To comply with the new law, organizational changes were made, the budget format was modified and new policy directives were issued, including grievance procedures for VISTA volunteers and career counseling provisions for low-income, locally recruited VISTA volunteers. In a separate law, Congress revised the funding policy for RSVP to provide for continued ACTION assistance to local sponsors beyond the original five-year period. It also reduced the non-federal share of project costs to a maximum of 50 per cent.

The act also called for the development of new approaches to solving old problems. In response, ACTION designed a Special Volunteer Programs unit to test a variety of innovative programming ideas. Simple descriptions of SVP demonstration projects follow.

The major difference between VISTA

ACTION in the U.S.- 127,000 Volunteers



and the *ACTION Cooperative Volunteer Program* is that sponsors to whom ACVs are assigned share the cost of the volunteers with ACTION, paying $4,000 toward each volunteer's direct support.

Administration in Justice is a demonstration effort which engages resources from the National Center for Crime and Delinquency to mobilize volunteers in justice-related programs.

Vetreach volunteers are Vietnam era veterans who acquaint other veterans with benefits and services offered by the Veterans Administration and other sources within the community. Vetreach is a joint program of ACTION and the Veterans Administration.

A two-year grant enables the *State Volunteer Services Coordinator Program* to develop single offices within states to act as advocates for voluntarism. Each office provides a clearinghouse for material and information about volunteer programs existing throughout the state.

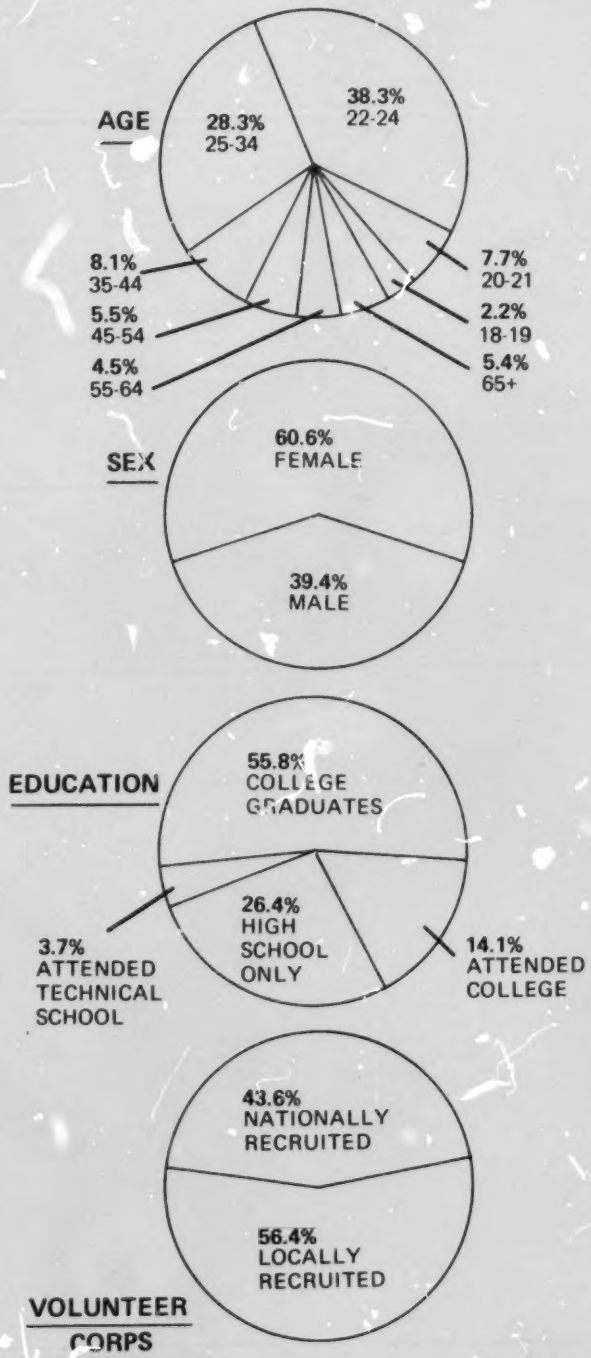
Designed to mobilize large numbers of local part-time volunteers to work on specific community problems, the *Mini-Grant Program* awards up to $5,000 to local private or public non-profit organizations.

ACTION is awarding grants to *City/County/Regional* governments to enable governments to hire and support volunteer programs coordinators. The non-renewable grants range from $15,000 to $50,000, depending upon the population served.

Last year the 350-volunteer *Program for Local Service* in the Seattle, Wash. area proved so successful that it was expanded to several other locations in the United States. Placement of full-time volunteers is a combined effort, with applicants and sponsors mutually agreeing to work together.

ACTION's new Youth Challenge Program

VISTA Volunteers Profile



VOLUNTEER CORPS COMPOSITION

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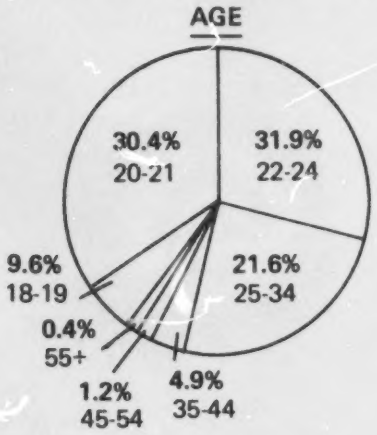
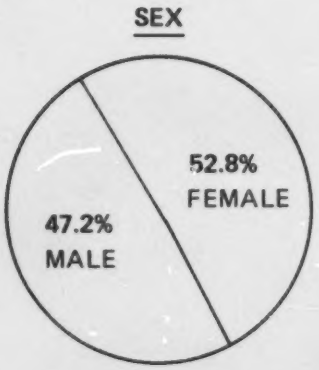
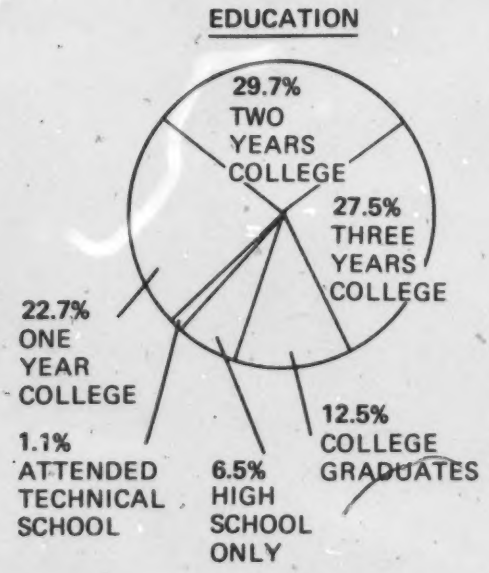
UYA Volunteer Profile







is an experimental program to recruit and place volunteers 14 to 21 years of age. Its purpose is to develop and test the effectiveness of a volunteer program for young people in terms of its value to the volunteers themselves. Thirty-four planning grants were awarded in late FY 1974. The program is being developed by ACTION Education Programs, which also administers UYA and NSVP.

MOVING FORWARD

While new program ideas were being explored throughout DO, the agency continued to maintain and strengthen its established programs. The greatest numerical growth during the past year took place in RSVP. The program mushroomed from 28,029 to 101,612 volunteers, even though the projected strength for June, 1974, as stated in last year's Annual Report, was "only" 90,000.

RSVP matches the skills of senior volunteers with services needed in their communities. Although many RSVP volunteers serve in hospitals, schools, day care centers and libraries, many have chosen more unique assignments matched specifically to their interests or lifelong desires.

A retired psychologist drives a tractor on a living history farm in Iowa, for example. A Polish immigrant who tailored World War I uniforms is tailoring Revolutionary Army uniforms for fellow volunteers at a bicentennial site in New Jersey. A white-bearded volunteer who always wanted to be a movie star drives a buckboard loaded with camera-laden tourists through a reconstruction of an early Arizona village. A Roman Catholic nun teaches arts and crafts at a juvenile detention center in Connecticut.

The newest of ACTION's domestic programs, the Senior Companion Program, enables low-income men and women age

A retired nun serves as an RSVP volunteer, teaching crafts at a juvenile detention center in Hartford, Conn.

60 and over to give care and companionship to other adults—especially the elderly —living at home, in nursing homes and in institutions. The program will emphasize helping adults to stay at home and out of institutions.

Committed to serve 20 hours a week, Senior Companions will visit with two or more elderly people under the supervision of cooperating non-profit social service agencies. Senior Companions will assist the elderly with meals and household chores, read to them, help with shopping, take them to concerts and refer them to appropriate social agencies when necessary.

A Senior Companion must be 60 years of age or older, in good health and in the lower income group. Volunteers receive a modest stipend for their service, transportation, accident insurance and annual physical examinations. Senior Companions will not replace employed personnel or other volunteers. They will complement the service of others.

The Senior Companion program is modeled after ACTION's highly successful Foster Grandparent Program. More than 12,100 Foster Grandparents, all low- income men and women 60 and over, provide love and guidance to emotionally, physically and mentally handicapped children.

The benefits to both the children and Grandparents are indisputable. The handicapped children often respond to the consistent and patient attention of the Foster Grandparents in a manner described as "miraculous" by many hospital and institution staff members. A Grandparent at a public welfare receiving home for dependent children in Cincinnati might be speaking for all Foster Grandparents when she

A spontaneous hug is the reward of this Foster Grandparent at a welfare receiving home in Cincinnati, Ohio.

says, "When you come in each morning they throw their little arms around you. I love every day and every hour of it."

Many sponsors offer fringe benefits which enable the Foster Grandparents to enrich their later years with college courses in sociology and child development, group therapy sessions, shopping instruction and nutrition classes, as well as the opportunity to socialize with people of like age and interests.

Increasingly diverse sponsors are supporting ACTION programs, in keeping with the agency goal of attracting groups not previously involved with ACTION volunteer programs. Churches, service clubs and labor unions have joined the list of institutions sponsoring ACTION programs.

For example, the First Presbyterian Church in Reading, Calif. sponsors a VISTA self-help housing project with generous assistance from a five-county labor council representing 29 unions. The VISTA supervisor attends union roll calls to recruit non-working members on an as-needed basis. On one occasion, six electricians rewired a Head Start classroom which has been closed because of inadequate wiring.

VISTA and UYA volunteers encounter problems in health, justice, education, housing, social services, economic development and environmental protection. As UYA volunteers develop techniques for addressing some of society's problems, they receive academic credit. Volunteers serve in low-income communities under the guidance of college faculty members and supervisors from the poverty agencies to which they are assigned.

Although few in number compared with ACTION's larger programs, their influence touches every corner of the country—from Alaska Methodist University in Anchorage to the University of Massachusetts at Amherst to Southern Louisiana State University in Lafayette to Pepperdine University in Los Angeles.

SCORE, comprised of 4,694 retired businessmen and women, increased the number of businesses counseled by more than 50 per cent during the year—the second year in a row SCORE can make that claim. This year, SCORE's 243 chapters handled 49,000 requests for advice. SCORE volunteers are available in every state to share their expertise in business management and operation.

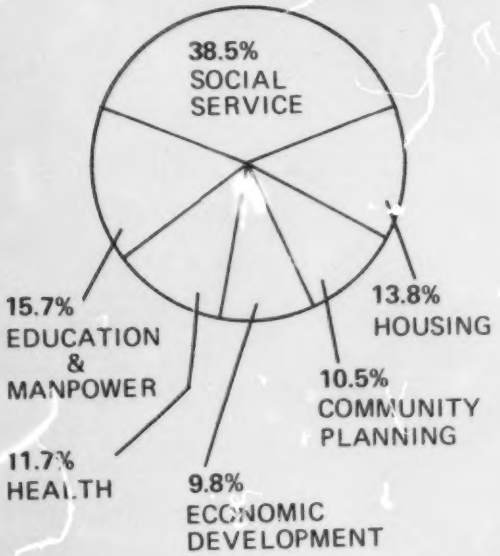
ACE, a similar program offering business advice, has a nationwide membership of 2,364. ACE volunteers are executives who, unlike their SCORE counterparts, are not retired.

KEEPING TRACK

To keep all of its programs operating efficiently and effectively, DO makes yearly evaluations. This year, DO conducted 246 project evaluations of VISTA, UYA, RSVP and FGP programs. The evaluations allow any program weaknesses to surface and be corrected through plans developed and carried out by state program officers.

In addition to the evaluation, DO made a production study of VISTA and UYA. In a sample study of 56 projects with 719 VISTA and UYA volunteers, certain conclusions were drawn regarding the economic benefits of ACTION volunteers to local clients and sponsors. To arrive at an estimate of what a volunteer is "worth" the following formula was used: volunteer production equals the sum of income generated plus savings for service plus the new

VISTA Projects



UYA Projects

resources made available to the sponsor plus the additional manpower generated. If all 719 volunteers in the sample worked one full year and continued to mobilize resources at the rate they had in the past, the average amount would be $28,941 per volunteer.

A separate DO study of RSVP resulted in a better understanding of what constitutes a successful program and the difficulties of operating an RSVP. The program will be modified accordingly.

THINKING AHEAD

During FY 1974, three experiments were designed to test whether a regional operation can simultaneously meet the needs of the local community, provide more efficient matches between ACTION volunteers and projects, and better utilize ACTION's applicant resources.

In two of the experiments, regional domestic field operations and recruitment and communications efforts have been merged.

The Region I experiment is testing whether the DO and Office of Recruitment and Communications (ORC) regional offices can be merged under the leadership of one director to achieve IO and DO recruitment goals, take sole responsibility for the successful delivery of all domestic volunteers who are to serve in the region, and effectively perform other ongoing functions. The Region VII experiment is testing the same things plus the capability of a regional office to process and evaluate all IO and nationally recruited volunteer (NRV) applicants recruited in the region.

The third experiment tests the concept of an ACTION Service Center which has been proposed by the ORC western regional office. An ACTION Service Center maintains the two separate regional structures, but delegates much of ORC's headquarters operational responsibility to the field. The ORC western experiment is testing whether an ACTION Service Center can achieve IO and DO recruitment goals, be solely responsible for the successful delivery of all trainees to the DO regions it serves (Regions VIII, IX, and X), and process and evaluate all NRV and IO applicants that it recruits.

Criteria have been developed which will be used to measure the success of each experiment against the objectives, each other and the centralized system. The evaluation of each experiment is ongoing and will be concluded by Oct. 1. At that time, decisions will be made on the proper course ACTION will follow in the future.

REGION I

MASSACHUSETTS

312 VISTA
185 SCORE
265 FGP
3536 RSVP
12 ACE
120 UYA
5 SVP

MAINE

133 VISTA
47 FGP
1233 RSVP
68 SCORE
37 ACE
2 SVP

CONNECTICUT

131 VISTA
242 FGP
1936 RSVP
78 SCORE
28 ACE
3 SVP

NEW HAMPSHIRE

49 VISTA
50 FGP
918 RSVP
61 SCORE
37 ACE
0 SVP

RHODE ISLAND

108 VISTA
50 FGP
863 RSVP
26 SCORE
53 ACE
1 SVP

VERMONT

59 VISTA
46 UYA
58 FGP
890 RSVP
49 SCORE
55 ACE
3 SVP

New England: little white churches, maple syrup dripping into a bucket, fishing boats bobbing in a blue harbor. But New England is also an RSVP volunteer in Hartford teaching a senior citizen how to read from a book called "Famous Black Americans," UYA volunteers manning mobile dental units in rural Vermont to treat children who have never seen a dentist before, and a feisty 76-year-old VISTA cutting bureaucratic red tape for local residents at a Little City Hall in South Boston.

ACTION programs in the six states comprising Region I are rich in diversity. The numbers of volunteers are growing by leaps and bounds. New England's SCORE membership rose to 680 and new chapters sprang up in six cities, bringing the total number of chapters to 27. SCORE in Springfield, Mass. was credited by *Industry* magazine with saving the life of an ailing machine tool firm. Neither the Small Business Administration nor the banks were willing to risk giving the company a loan. SCORE members approached private investors who put up enough money so that SBA and the banks later said "yes" to the tune of $350,000.

There is growing state government and host institution support of the Foster Grandparent program. Vermont is planning to build low-income senior housing on state institution grounds where Foster Grandparents serve, and in Massachusetts several state offices are considering support of Foster Grandparents in public schools, delinquent children's group homes and group homes for retardates. Connecticut has allocated $250,000 to develop a statewide Senior Companion Program.

Fifty-five Senior Companions in Rhode Island will work in institutions with patients who need constant support and encouragement in order to return to community-based

Joining efforts at a senior citizen drop-in center in Boston are a VISTA volunteer (l.) sponsored by the Massachusetts Assn. for Older Americans and a UYA volunteer from the University of Massachusetts.

or independent living.

Boston's Commission on the Affairs of the Elderly was awarded over $278,000 for a PLS program aimed at helping the disadvantaged elderly. Fifty people will serve through sponsoring social service agencies, aiding the less mobile elderly in selected city target areas.

Three new RSVP programs were funded during FY 1974, while existing RSVP sponsors began to plan volunteer assignments in relation to community need, such as the Newton, Mass. program in which 40 RSVP volunteers conducted lead paint screening. A sponsor from western Maine has recruited 90 per cent of its volunteers from former blue collar ranks. Another Maine sponsor successfully utilizes volunteers from a friendly visitor station as sitters with physically ill spouses to enable the well partners to serve as volunteers.

RSVP volunteers at the Brattleboro, Vt. public library help the legally blind use a complex and versatile electronic machine which helps people read and write. Thanks to the Lazor machine, one participant learned to write for the first time. Others are able to balance checking accounts and perform similar activities to maintain independence. In Whiting, Vt., RSVP stimulated the town to reopen an abandoned library. The building was restored with the support of the selectmen and the help of the fire department, a youth service agency and a big brother program.

Region I has refined the consortium model for sponsoring VISTA volunteers, who are able to serve a number of community agencies under the consortium umbrella. The model has been used at least once in each of the six New England states over the past year.

All the VISTA volunteers of a Spanish-speaking social service consortium, Agencias Unidas, came to the rescue of fellow Spanish-Americans following a severe fire in Chelsea, Mass. last year. The volunteers aided families in relocating, distributed food and clothing, and assisted disaster relief agencies.

VISTA volunteers are working with the Worcester, Mass. Consortium for Higher Education, Inc., which is comprised of 11 colleges and universities. The volunteers will assist in developing communication, transportation, supervision and overall coordination mechanisms to field an estimated 1,100 part-time student volunteers.

Tribal Governors, Inc. was approved as a statewide VISTA sponsor in Maine. Volunteers will be recruited and supervised by the local Indian reservations, with each reservation responsible for developing its own projects.

The Mini-Grant Program, one of 25 Special Volunteer Programs operating in Region I, enabled the development, production and distribution of an instructional film and workbook which will be used to train volunteers working with moderately to severely brain-damaged children. The $500 grant was awarded to the Woodstock Learning Clinic in West Woodstock, Vt.

REGION II

NEW YORK

328 VISTA
117 UYA
1097 FGP
8185 RSVP
257 SCORE
109 ACE
13 SVP

NEW JERSEY

48 VISTA
56 UYA
313 FGP
3320 RSVP
127 SCORE
42 ACE
11 SVP

PUERTO RICO

163 VISTA
111 FGP
13 SCORE
9 ACE
89 RSVP
0 SVP

VIRGIN ISLANDS

27 VISTA
51 FGP
37 RSVP
0 SVP

New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands are diverse in culture, language and custom, but all are marked by high unemployment and crime, intensified by widespread drug addiction. Because of the rapid rise of food and housing costs, large numbers of the elderly, of which there are more than five million, and families, particularly those without contributing fathers, are caught in the economic squeeze. The mobility of a substantial segment of the welfare population also heightens the need for volunteer programs against poverty in this area.

VISTA volunteers are addressing these problems throughout the region. In South Bronx, New York City, 26 VISTA volunteers are assigned to the Riker's Island project. Their aim is to help prison releasees return to the community with a place to live, restored family ties and a job. Records of the past year show that 42 per cent of those ex-offenders placed in jobs have been employed longer than six months.

In nearby Jersey City, N.J., VISTA volunteers cover the city by mobile van. Their goal is to find those people on welfare who are not receiving food stamps, although more than 50 per cent of them qualify. In another VISTA project, the Hunger Task Force of Buffalo, N.Y. has established an emergency food center which is supplied by donations. Its efforts have increased the number of public and parochial schools participating in a breakfast program. VISTA volunteers assist the Erie County Office for the Aging in outreach and transportation programs in support of the nutrition program for the elderly.

Five lawyers serve as VISTA volunteers with the Monroe County Legal Assistance Corp. in Rochester, N.Y. Elderly and poverty level tenants there found that their rents had been increased in the face of significant code and building defects. They organized into tenants' associations, and

the VISTA lawyers acted as their representatives in court actions. Others were represented in eviction actions, most of which were decided in favor of the tenants.

The Rochester lawyers also challenged the education provided to mentally handicapped children. The result is that all children who qualify will attend special education classes for the first time in September, 1974. In another court action, a lawsuit was filed against the county citing over-crowding and inadequate medical care in the women's prison. Both conditions have since been improved.

Puerto Rico is the home of VESPRA, one of the most forceful VISTA projects in the region. VESPRA volunteers working with the Foundation for Community Development of Puerto Rico have set in motion such community projects as construction of sewer systems, purification of drinking water, a fishermen's cooperative and drug addiction centers. The fishermen's co-op presently employs 23 fishermen and promises to be a major economic force in the southeastern corner of the island.

Working in two island communities, an ex-drug addict who is now a VESPRA volunteer has organized several youth groups. He engages them in community action and recreational activities and holds frequent "attitudinal change seminars," a form of group therapy which he found useful during his own rehabilitation.

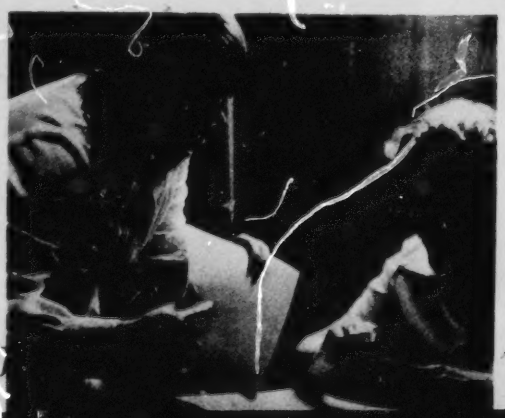
Another volunteer in Puerto Rico has organized a citizens' committee and women's and youth groups in three communities. These groups have been the stimulus for road construction, street paving projects and sewing co-ops.

Two long neglected and apathetic communities have improved their school building, provided a school bus, constructed two low-income housing projects with 100 homes, and repaired streets and roads.

Back on the mainland, RSVP volunteers have organized a senior task force which has expanded from serving lunches to older people to providing speakers on problems relating to senior citizens. This Camden, N.J. project also offers talented senior entertainers and free film showings, and sponsors sewing for hospitals and day care centers. The volunteers' latest achievement is a senior advocate program which has hired a lawyer to handle the legal problems of older persons.

In the past year RSVP volunteers in Region II have tripled in number, expanding their duties to include serving as physical therapy aides; tour guides in museums, libraries and the New York City Botanical Gardens: preparing for the bicentennial celebration; helping out in social security offices, and testing soil for local farmers and gardeners in rural New Jersey.

ACTION programs combined efforts in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., where UYA volunteers from Marist College, backed by the counseling of SCORE members, are striving to revitalize a blighted area of the inner city. Their efforts have helped to influence a city appropriation of $25,000 for new sidewalks, curbing, street repair and tree planting.



ACTION Cooperative Volunteer (l.) coordinates learning centers and teaches classes for the New Jersey Adult Basic Education program.

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REGION III

DELAWARE
23 VISTA
136 FGP
448 RSVP
1 SCORE
1 ACE
7 SVP

PENNSYLVANIA
95 VISTA
13 UYA
654 FGP
5620 RSVP
151 SCORE
77 ACE
5 SVP

WEST VIRGINIA
16 VISTA
30 UYA
215 FGP
18 SCORE
15 ACE
594 RSVP
0 SVP

MARYLAND
312 VISTA
120 UYA
265 FGP
3536 RSVP
185 SCORE
12 ACE
5 SVP

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
38 VISTA
29 UYA
56 FGP
666 RSVP
45 SCORE
49 ACE
0 SVP

VIRGINIA
35 VISTA
196 FGP
1085 RSVP
58 SCORE
20 ACE
17 UYA
18 SVP

Region III has been exploring new sponsors and new ways to use volunteers with notable success during FY 1974.

For example, the Greater Washington Central Labor Council—AFL-CIO in Washington, D.C. became the first union organization in the nation to sponsor a Foster Grandparent Program. In Pittsburgh, the Allegheny County government received the country's largest Senior Companion Program grant. It is the only Senior Companion program that includes senior ethnic VISTA volunteers as an integral part of the design. More than 120 Senior Companions will coordinate efforts with 15 bilingual VISTA volunteers to reach the isolated ethnic elderly, many of whom are retired area labor union members.

Bilingual VISTA volunteers from Philadelphia's Chinese community are keeping traditions alive among local youth and bringing services to the elderly through the Chinese Benevolent Assn. and Chinatown's YMCA.

In a program focusing on counseling for women offenders, female ex-offenders serve as VISTA volunteers in Washington with One America, Inc.

The Mission of Community Concern, Inc. is sponsoring six inmates on daily furlough from the District of Columbia Department of Corrections facility at Lorton, Va. as full-time volunteers. The inmates will work with approximately six VISTA volunteers as counselors in a juvenile delinquency prevention program. The VISTA volunteers have helped to set up a tutoring program at the mission for students with a record of high absenteeism or truancy. They also are working to improve potential dropouts in a truancy prevention program. The Lorton inmates will work with juvenile offenders as well as high school dropouts.

New career development is the result of

farsighted planning in Pittsburgh. The Foster Grandparent program is creating a locally funded program to enable former Foster Grandparents to work as para-professionals with exceptional children in their own homes. Former VISTA volunteers with the Welfare Rights Organization are moving into casework aide positions with the welfare department.

The same city has made good use of SCORE volunteers. The Opportunity Centers Division of the Allegheny County Assn. for Retarded Children found that their six area workshops for severely to moderately retarded adults were not producing to capacity. The problem lay with the production of piecework made under contract to private industry. A team of four SCORE volunteers was assigned to help the center break down complicated manufacturing jobs so that the retardates could successfully handle them. They also worked out ways to increase production and better meet customer standards. SCORE then put together a public relations program which included newly designed informational brochures and a well-organized speaker's bureau to educate the public and open doors for more contracts for the center.

A former corporate executive who is a senior VISTA developed a public relations campaign and staff training for the Westmoreland County Conference on Economic Opportunity in central Pennsylvania. Through his efforts the agency resolved a $200,000 deficit during his year of service.

Senior volunteers have been invaluable throughout the region. In Boyds, Md., a group of RSVP volunteers makes weekly visits to an elementary school and a day care center, to the delight of many small students. Besides singing, storytelling and woodworking, the volunteers have made a variety of reading and mathematics instructional materials which teachers use in their classrooms. As a result of the volunteers' innovative approaches, the county reading specialist started a language arts lab using many of the volunteer-created materials.

ACTION "new business" includes 36 ACVs placed in four states, thanks to $250,000 committed from private sources for the support of these full-time ACTION volunteers. With special assistance through ACTION Mini-Grants, two Philadelphia inner city organizations are establishing a communication, technical assistance and resource development network by using community volunteers as block ombudsmen.

ACTION "old business" includes ACV and VISTA volunteers providing follow-up services to those affected by Hurricane Agnes in 1972. They are assisting with housing relocation problems in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. under the sponsorship of the Pennsylvania state government.

The ABCs occupy youngsters and their VISTA volunteer at a family day care center in the Tioga-Nicetown section of Philadelphia.

This ACE volunteer in Florida is a management consultant specializing in accounting and production, marketing problems.

REGION IV

SOUTH CAROLINA
63 VISTA
116 FGP
37 SCORE
828 RSVP
3 ACE
0 SVP

NORTH CAROLINA
57 VISTA
183 FGP
1157 RSVP
[illegible] SCORE
23 ACE
0 SVP

FLORIDA
74 VISTA
[illegible]6 FGP
3431 RSVP
[illegible]9 SCORE
81 ACE
2 SVP

KENTUCKY
34 VISTA
40 UYA
194 FGP
1076 RSVP
51 SCORE
38 ACE
7 SVP

TENNESSEE
23 VISTA
164 FGP
1677 RSVP
80 SCORE
10 ACE
21 UYA
6 SVP

MISSISSIPPI
127 FGP
1138 RSVP
61 SCORE
34 ACE
3 VISTA
22 UYA
1 SVP

GEORGIA
44 VISTA
72 FGP
833 RSVP
49 SCORE
25 ACE
89 UYA
6 SVP

ALABAMA
43 VISTA
39 UYA
32 FGP
3069 RSVP
21 SCORE
15 ACE
8 SVP

ACTION's busy Region IV has seen unprecendented activity during the past year. It now claims nearly 17,500 volunteers, an increase of more than 10,000 over last year. Cash and in-kind local support of ACTION programs totals almost $2 million. VISTA was invited to serve in Mississippi for the first time, and the region's eight UYA programs have reduced the costs of volunteer support below all other UYA programs in the nation.

When ACTION was born in July, 1971, Mississippi had only one ACTION program in the state-SCORE. Today, besides its SCORE chapters, Mississippi can boast more than 1,000 ACTION volunteers. The Mississippi Red Cross is sponsoring a VISTA disaster training and health training program in which volunteers serve poor residents in the delta area. The sponsor is absorbing the cost of the volunteers, who will train large numbers of local volunteers to both aid in disaster relief and instruct low-income persons in ways to improve health standards.

In Mississippi's neighboring state of Alabama, the remarkable feature of a VISTA self-help housing project is the number and range of organizations working to construct not just new homes but a whole new lifestyle for low-income residents of Auburn.

Community residents work 20 hours a week helping to build their own homes. VISTA volunteers coordinate, assisting with multiple details from the loan application to the housewarming. The Farmer's Home Administration provides loan assistance.

Entire fraternities from Auburn University volunteer to tackle one-time big jobs where many hands make a difference. Several university faculty members, each an expert in some housing-related field, sit on the

board of directors of the project. When appropriate, Lee County Head Start assigns its social workers to families in need. The welfare office keeps its eyes open for people who might qualify for the housing program and refers potential home builders to VISTA. Finally, supervised students from the Opelika State Technical Institute, a vocational high school, do the electrical wiring on the new homes.

Another project in another state worked for the same reason the Auburn project succeeded—community people got into the act. A Head Start teacher in Columbia, S.C. expressed the need for a playground to a VISTA supervisor, who passed it along to a VISTA architect and a fellow volunteer. Agreeing to undertake the project, the VISTA volunteers procured nearly all their materials by donation and purchased the rest with $400 provided by Head Start.

The playground was constructed on the grounds of a 200-unit low-cost housing project. As the playground took shape, so did community interest. Soon teenagers began to help with construction, and neighborhood children gladly "tested" the equipment. The playground took three months of full-time work to complete and is valued at $5,000.

The integrated approach is in high gear in Florida. The Foster Grandparent Program in Orlando created a cooperative project for marketing items made by senior citizens. The project receives SCORE counsel and is staffed by RSVP volunteers.

Some Special Volunteer Programs were fresh off the drawing board at the end of FY 1974, and several SVP volunteers were already in the field. For instance, in Louisville, Ky. an ACV is part of a human services coordination project representing state and regional public agencies, local public agencies and the voluntary sector in Louisville and Jefferson County. In both North and South Carolina, State Volunteer Services Coordinator Program grants were awarded to promote and study voluntarism and devise ways of stimulating a more coordinated approach while increasing citizen involvement.

Plans are complete to place 50 Senior Companions in a mountainous rural area of Tennessee. Their program is designed to offer in-home services for older people where nursing home facilities, health care and social workers are non-existent.

Region IV staff members agree that they have shared an exceptionally productive year. One of their activities was a regional conference on voluntarism which brought together more than 500 participants from all eight states. Civic, business, fraternal, governmental and volunteer groups joined ACTION for the three-day event.

REGION V

ILLINOIS
116 VISTA
38 UYA
618 FGP
3863 RSVP
156 SCORE
48 ACE
6 SVP

MICHIGAN
50 VISTA
38 UYA
351 FGP
3657 RSVP
89 SCORE
97 ACE
9 SVP

INDIANA
34 VISTA
287 FGP
2374 RSVP
43 SCORE
13 ACE
3 SVP

OHIO
17 VISTA
35 UYA
714 FGP
5469 RSVP
158 SCORE
73 ACE
8 SPV

WISCONSIN
96 VISTA
27 UYA
331 FGP
1114 RSVP
69 SCORE
36 ACE

MINNESOTA
87 VISTA
11 UYA
348 FGP
2648 RSVP
137 SCORE
56 ACE
2 SVP

Region V leads the nation with its volunteer strength of 22,493 serving the six-state area. The region also considers its five newly developed integrated program "packages" as facts worthy of note.

The first program, developed in cooperation with the Administrative Resources Assn. (ARA) of Columbia, Ind., involves VISTA, ACV, the C/C/R program and a local volunteer mobilization and coordination program.

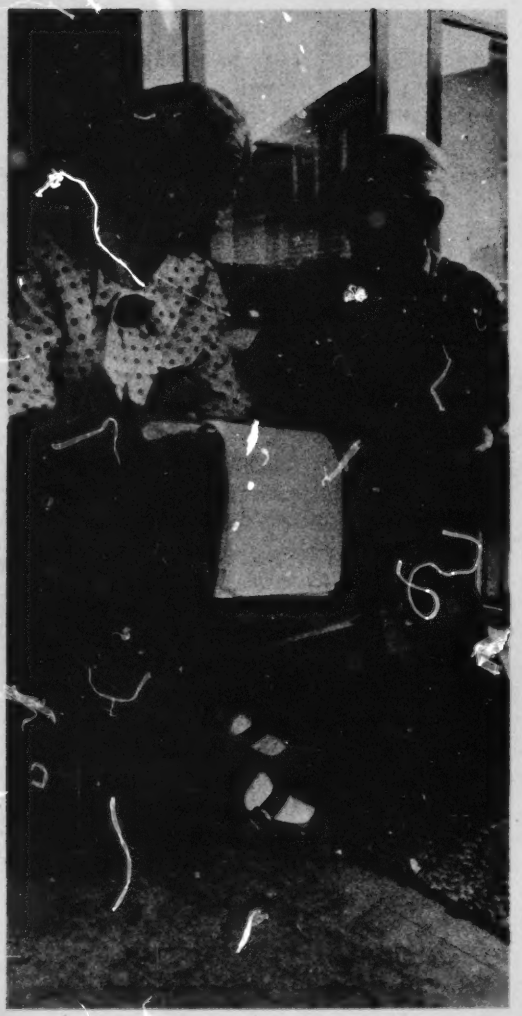
VISTA volunteers and ACVs are providing technical assistance, conducting surveys to determine needs and helping to find resources for 15 southern Indiana cities which are members of ARA. The Lilly Endowment of Indiana supplied the project with $100,000.

Chicago was selected as the site for a second integrated program, which unites ACTION resources with those of the local Hellenic Foundation. ACTION volunteers from three different program areas have conducted a detailed census of Chicago's Greek-American community. The cooperative effort focuses on the elderly and recent immigrants within the Hellenic community of an estimated 200,000 persons.

In a third example of integrated programming, VISTA and Suomi College in Hancock, Mich. are addressing the problems of senior citizens in the four-county area served by the college. The community includes a high concentration of Finnish and Italian elderly.

The Cass Corridor area of Detroit is the setting for a fourth integrated program involving ACTION volunteers, students from the Detroit Institute of Technology (DIT) and the Detroit city government.

Many of the elderly living in the area are robbed on their way to cash thei



Talking together in the mother tongue, a VISTA volunteer of Ukrainian descent advises a Ukrainian senior citizen how to stretch his monthly income. Senior Ethnic Find is a well-known VISTA project serving Chicago, Gary, Detroit and Cleveland.

Social Security checks. Students from DIT will serve as personal escorts in a measure to protect the elderly from attack. The city will provide transportation for the seniors and volunteers. The volunteers will try to interest the seniors in the city's nutrition program.

Northwest Indiana is the locale of the fifth integrated program, developed in cooperation with the Council on Aging of Lake County, Ind. The program will develop services for the 58,000 senior citizens residing in Lake County. It is relying on ACTION volunteers from three programs, $43,750 from the Indiana State Commission on Aging and the Aged, and $36,000 from ACTION.

Project Senior Ethnic Find has expanded to include four cities with strong ethnic representations. The VISTA project is located in the industrialized cities of Chicago, Gary, Cleveland and Detroit.

Senior Ethnic Find VISTA volunteers do what the title of their project implies—they locate elderly ethnic citizens and acquaint them with available services. Nearly 60 bilingual volunteers, all senior citizens themselves, serve in 26 distinct ethnic communities.

The region leads the country in RSVP enrollment with 18,198 volunteers, compared with the 1973 total of 4,595. Region V is also the only area in the country to turn out a SCORE story with the cryptic title, "Singer Makes Song a Hit." A Chinese gentleman named Song who ran a plastics molding business turned to a SCORE volunteer named Singer whose background included plastics molding. Song's present operation now does ten times the volume of his original business, thanks in part, to Singer's help.

REGION VI

ARKANSAS

74 VISTA
110 FGP
968 RSVP
52 ACE
0 SVP
34 SCORE

TEXAS

162 VISTA
65 UYA
563 FGP
4650 RSVP
280 SCORE
208 ACE
10 SVP

OKLAHOMA

74 VISTA
110 FGP
968 RSVP
34 SCORE
52 ACE
0 SVP

NEW MEXICO

103 VISTA
88 FGP
571 RSVP
51 SCORE
1 ACE
2 SVP

LOUISIANA

37 VISTA
44 UYA
155 FGP
724 RSVP
73 SCORE
33 ACE
1 SVP

In Region VI, state officials at the highest level are suggesting ways to take advantage of ACTION's rich human resources. Grassroots organizations are helping to design programs to meet the needs of the man on the street and, at the corporate level, businessmen and women are contributing private funds and expertise.

ACTION was among 11 major organizations mobilized last year for a statewide immunization project task force in Arkansas. VISTA nurses from around the state inoculated more than 225,000 youngsters, while RSVP volunteers kept records.

The region has awarded funds for its first PLS effort, sponsored by the Manpower Council in Little Rock. Working through the Arkansas Department of Social Services, the PLS volunteers will find and inform the eligible residents in 16 counties about the food stamp program.

Under the sponsorship of the Natchitoches (La.) Area Action Assn., two VISTA nurses are working with 20 RSVP volunteers to establish a permanent health center for the community, since the next closest medical services are 23 miles away. During the past year, the VISTA volunteers have provided regular nursing services three days a week. RSVP volunteers act as aides in the clinic and promote its continued growth in their neighborhoods.

In fact, RSVP volunteers integrate easily with many different ACTION volunteers. In Albuquerque, N.M., RSVP and SCORE volunteers are recruiting retired paralegal persons to assist a staff attorney and VISTA lawyers who will deal exclusively with the legal problems of the elderly. The RSVP sponsor, the Area Agency on Aging, is providing funds to the Legal Aid Society which sponsors the VISTA lawyers.

In the same city, an ACV working through the New Mexico Bar Assn. is set-

A UYA volunteer from El Paso Community College in Texas (r.) talks over procedures for counseling alcoholics with his community supervisor.

ting up a volunteer parole aide program to provide parolees with the guidance and counsel of volunteer attorneys from the community.

The criminal justice system is also receiving great attention from VISTA volunteers in Oklahoma City. Many people brought into jail for minor offenses cannot post release bonds. VISTA volunteers follow a careful system in determining which prisoners should be recommended for personal recognizance bonds.

The chief municipal judge there has praised the volunteers for a probable 90 per cent success rate. "That's probably as good a rate as you find for those who pay to be let out on bail," he says. In addition, VISTA volunteers have mobilized resources which resulted in a $35,000 grant from the Oklahoma Crime Commission to expand services initiated through ACTION.

Community support is happening in Roswell, N.M., where the Security National Bank is paying for SCORE advertisements in the local newspaper. Despite the vast size of Region VI, new SCORE chapter development puts a SCORE counselor within driving distance of every business person in the five-state area. SCORE's brother program, ACE, numbers more than 300 volunteers. Houston, Tex. is still the only city in the country with a separate organized ACE chapter.

The Texas Department of Community Affairs is an umbrella agency which administers most of the state's services programs. The department is a sponsor of both VISTA and ACV, and has been designated to administer an ACTION State Volunteer Coordinator program grant.

In addition, two Texas organizations which serve migrant workers on a year-round basis have become ACTION sponsors for ACV and VISTA projects. While volunteers will be trained and assigned in Region VI, they will travel the migrant trail to temporary assignments in Idaho, Ohio, Illinois and other locations. These projects are being coordinated by Region VI in cooperation with Region X and Region V.

REGION VII

IOWA	MISSOURI
58 VISTA	81 VISTA
186 FGP	32 UYA
1726 RSVP	280 FGP
189 SCORE	2730 RSVP
20 ACE	115 SCORE
26 UYA	55 ACE
10 SVP	3 SVP

NEBRASKA	KANSAS
61 VISTA	78 VISTA
14 UYA	101 FGP
131 FGP	729 RSVP
1107 RSVP	53 SCORE
58 SCORE	34 ACE
34 ACE	27 UYA
17 SVP	11 SVP

The 187 ACTION programs in Region VII demonstrate that voluntarism is a worthwhile and successful means of solving problems and meeting community needs without more or higher taxes.

The success of this demonstration can be measured by the region's extensive program development and the degree to which the programs have fulfilled agency goals. A broad and representative cross section of Midwestern society is represented by the Plains States' 74 new ACTION programs. The region has attracted new and different kinds of sponsors and has witnessed a dramatic increase in resources mobilized from the public and private sectors.

For instance, a VISTA project in Walthill, Neb. generated a $23,000 grant from the Nebraska Regional Medical Program for a health educator and a part-time nurse. VISTA volunteers on a legal aid project sponsored by the Indian Inter-Tribal Development Corp. were responsible for obtaining a $75,000 grant for rehabilitation of alcoholics.

From Father Flanigan's Boys' Town to the Crazy Horse Cultural Center — both Nebraska sponsors of ACTION programs— the neighbor-helping-neighbor concept has caught fire. In Lincoln, the Open Door Health Center was developed by low-income residents working side by side with VISTA volunteers. The Lincoln Foundation, a local philanthropic organization, provided $18,000 toward the operation of the center. The success of this program has prompted the mayor of Lincoln to apply to sponsor a VISTA project aimed at his city's housing problems.

In Rock Valley, Iowa the Rotary Club sponsors a Foster Grandparent Program. An in-kind cash contribution of $20,000 comes from the host institution, a private non-profit school for the mentally and

Living History Farms in Des Moines, Iowa finds RSVP volunteers invaluable. Here, a volunteer who maintains a farm implement museum gives a rope-making demonstration.

physically handicapped.

The Governor of Iowa's VISTA project developed a successful Mini-Grant proposal to establish a summer camp program for disadvantaged youth in the Des Moines area. The YMCA, this year's sponsor, was assisted by the Iowa National Guard, the public school system and area volunteers, This same group will see that the program continues next year through community support.

A VISTA project in west central Missouri has launched a job opportunity program for the mentally and physically handicapped. Twenty-seven formerly institutionalized people who never worked before are using hand and power tools to make fillers for automobile doors, wooden pallets and rubbish bags under contracts with Ford Motor Co., Falstaff Brewing and Trans World Airlines.

A grass roots resident-designed project in St. Louis called Neighborhood Pride uses locally recruited VISTA industrial tradesmen to mobilize other skilled tradesmen who help and teach local residents to repair their own homes.

In Kansas, Wichita State University UYA volunteers are building bridges between the poverty neighborhood and law enforcement agencies. They provide counseling following marital fights which attract police attention, work with social agencies and the juvenile court system, and try in many ways to increase communication between community residents and the police. The Wichita police department and city commission contribute money, staff and space. Police department personnel directly supervise the project.

Wichita is also the home base for Vetreach, a program staffed by Vietnam era veterans who have become VISTA volunteers. Vetreach is co-sponsored by ACTION, the Red Cross and the Veterans Administration. The VISTA volunteers have contacted approximately 500 veterans, about half of whom have vocational or educational handicaps. They are encouraged to visit the Vetreach center for aid in finding vocational training programs or other kinds of assistance.

As in all ACTION regions, Region VII volunteers are working hand in hand. A University of Nebraska UYA volunteer and American Indian RSVP volunteers jointly compiled a dictionary of the Lakota language and a history of the Santee-Sioux tribe for the Santee-Sioux reservation. In other examples of program integration, an RSVP volunteer in Wellington, Kan. initiated a SCORE chapter in his city and an ACV volunteer in Beatrice, Neb. made Foster Grandparents aware of educational possibilities available through the University of Nebraska's extension services and area junior colleges.

REGION VIII

MONTANA
92 VISTA
78 FGP
36 UYA
1289 RSVP
76 SCORE
27 ACE
14 SVP

COLORADO
111 VISTA
24 UYA
118 FGP
73 SCORE
55 ACE
4 SVP

SOUTH DAKOTA
27 VISTA
81 FGP
43 SCORE
33 ACE
3 SVP

UTAH
63 VISTA
52 UYA
120 FGP
616 RSVP
35 SCORE
22 ACE
0 SVP

WYOMING
9 VISTA
44 FGP
92 RSVP
22 SCORE
24 ACE
0 SVP

NORTH DAKOTA
15 VISTA
82 UYA
34 FGP
467 RSVP
32 SCORE
66 ACE
1 SVP

Region VIII, covering 582,000 square miles and stretching 1,500 miles corner to corner, is ACTION's largest region. It extends from the Black Hills of the Dakotas, across the big sky country of Montana, along the Rocky Mountains through Wyoming and Colorado, to the salt flats of Utah.

There are famous landmarks—Mt. Rushmore, Pikes Peak, Yellowstone National Park, the Mormon Tabernacle in Salt Lake City—and there is widespread poverty on the region's 24 Indian reservations, in the barrios of the many Spanish-speaking communities, in urban ghettos and in small towns and farms scattered across the prairies.

ACTION is working closely with the region's American Indians as the result of the year-old Regional Indian Advisory Council. The council advises ACTION on what the agency can do to assist Indian people in Region VIII.

The council grew out of a two-day conference which included federal agencies in direct contact with Indians—HEW, HUD, BIA, LEAA — and tribal chairmen from 24 reservations. The conference was historic: it was the first time the tribes had gotten together.

A VISTA attorney from Denver is helping Indians determine who owns certain lands and where boundary lines run. He is also helping them to redraft leases and write land agreements.

At the country's largest Sioux reservation in Pine Ridge, S.D., all Foster Grandparents are Indians who are sharing their traditions and skills with their young Indian "grandchildren." Nearly all the Grandparents are accomplished craftsmen and women. VISTA and SCORE volunteers are developing markets for the Indian jewelry and clothing made by the Grandparents and are establishing accounting procedures for them.

Another economic development project includes seven Indians, seven non-Indians and their Indian supervisors — all VISTA volunteers in Montana. Together they are helping Crow and Blackfeet tribes by introducing new farming and ranching techniques and increasing the efficiency of local Indian farmers' swine production.

Two interesting sidelights: One VISTA husband and wife team serving at this project were former Peace Corps volunteers in Brazil. The Crow tribe contributed $12,000 to the supervisory costs of the project.

Sixty-eight experimental projects were begun in Region VIII by ACTION's Special Volunteer Programs division. One of 52 Mini-Grants awarded by SVP went to organize a four-day sports clinic for 250 Indian youths on the campus of Dakota Wesleyan University in Mitchell, S.D. Young men from five states met with college and professional coaches and athletes and heard about the opportunities available to athletes. Sponsors of the program hope the young men will stay in school in order to take advantage of sports activities and prepare for future careers. There is a high dropout rate among Indian youth in secondary schools.

A Foster Grandparent at Pine Ridge, S.D. helps youngsters master skills at a school for children with learning disabilities.

In still another effort involving Indians, ACV volunteers are cooperating with the Montana Division of Highway Safety in a program aimed at the habitual traffic offender. The five ACTION volunteers are Indians themselves and work primarily with Indian traffic offenders.

UYA volunteers at Metropolitan State College in Denver and the University of Utah in Salt Lake City are working with urban Indians, blacks and Mexican-Americans in self-help housing and health projects.

One of the first ACTION City grants in the country was made to Great Falls, Mont. The city created a 25-member advisory council to identify existing human resource capabilities and develop additional community resources.

Since agriculture is the dominant business in the region, SCORE/ACE volunteers in 20 chapters often counsel farmers and ranchers who live at the mercy of a fluctuating commodity market.

On the administrative side, plans were well under way at the close of the fiscal year to train VISTA volunteers in the field in a setting resembling their work sites.

Statewide training of VISTA supervisors and project directors was begun, and representatives of agencies using ACTION volunteers were brought into training for the first time. A training unit in Region VIII's office will give career counseling to low-income, locally recruited volunteers.

REGION IX

ARIZONA	CALIFORNIA
48 VISTA	234 VISTA
15 UYA	187 UYA
174 FGP	1056 FGP
851 RSVP	8481 RSVP
89 SCORE	355 SCORE
90 ACE	288 ACE
0 SVP	52 SVP

NEVADA	HAWAII
54 VISTA	44 VISTA
107 FGP	89 UYA
730 RSVP	833 RSVP
16 SCORE	49 SCORE
27 UYA	25 ACE
4 SVP	72 FGP
	6 SVP

AMERICAN SAMOA
5 VISTA

In Region IX, private sector and state and local government support for ACTION programs totaled more than $1.75 million during FY 1974. Part-time volunteers attracted to the agency's programs by ACTION volunteers numbered 1,180. Programs in each of the — California, Nevada, Arizona and Hawaii — have found innovative solutions to area problems and are attracting new sponsors and new constituencies.

A unique living and working arrangement is proving successful at the Spastic Children's Foundation in Los Angeles. Institutionalized residents of all ages live in an apartment complex along with UYA, RSVP and FGP volunteers and the general public. The foundation owns the apartment building, which has been remodeled to accommodate its handicapped residents. A resident ACV coordinates activities in which ACTION volunteers and the handicapped are mutually involved.

In northern California, a VISTA self-help housing project in Redding calls upon RSVP volunteers with construction expertise to provide technical assistance to less experienced VISTA volunteers. Labor unions have devoted many volunteer hours to the project, as have numerous members of the community. Low-income residents, college students, church members and the Shasta County board of supervisors have all been involved. The county board gave the project a new half-ton wide-bed truck as well as funds. Plans call for full-time UYA volunteers from Shasta College to work on the project during FY 1975.

In Las Vegas, Nev., 26 UYA and 31 VISTA volunteers, including two lawyers and seven legal para-professionals, are working with community organizations in projects involving food stamps, education, manpower, housing, social services and

In San Francisco, an Indian silversmith who owns his own shop seeks advice from a SCORE volunteer.

the administration of justice. The ACTION volunteers have assisted 250 eligible college students and low-income members of 60 churches to secure food stamps, mobilized 17 Neighborhood Youth Corps participants to renovate a day care center, provided housing assistance for the poor, counseled runaways and their families and offered legal counsel to senior citizens regarding welfare rights and consumer credit.

The VISTA sponsor in Las Vegas, Clark County Legal Services, gives training and orientation to UYA, FGP and RSVP volunteers. Still another member of the ACTION family, SCORE, makes business assistance available to the above ACTION groups on a continuing basis.

On a Navajo reservation in Cove, Ariz., VISTA volunteers raised funds and involved private citizens in helping to construct a traditional Navajo building called a hogan. Using the hogan as a "studio," the VISTA volunters are training Navajo artisans in rug weaving, silversmithing and basketweaving.

Ten VISTA volunteers built a $5,500 "minimum house" in Waimanalo, Hawaii, as a housing alternative. By June 30, eight models were under construction. Several local organizations participated in the project, including the Hawaii Housing Authority, the Honolulu chapter of the American Institute of Architects, the University of Hawaii Community Design Center and private citizens.

"Watermelon Seed," a 300-page preschool book for children of differing cultures, was published by Honolulu VISTA volunteers. It is being used by the University of Hawaii School of Education in graduate classes, at day care centers and by mothers at home. The University of New Mexico has requested 1,000 copies of the book to use in education classes and as a training manual in university-operated day care centers throughout the state.

Through the mayor's office, the city of Los Angeles contributed office space and materials for a new SCORE chapter in Van Nuys which will serve the 1.5 million residents of the San Fernando Valley.

More than 250 RSVP volunteers in Phoenix, Ariz. are placed in assignments corresponding to their interests and talents. A Roman Catholic nun operates a free food and clothing bank in the basement of a church, a retired food chemist mans a clothing store selling garments for as little as ten cents in a Mexican-American neighborhood, and a former businessman puts in several days a week at school libraries. Forty Sun City residents travel to nearby El Mirage to teach English each Thursday night to 40 farm laborers. RSVP volunteers in the same building conduct arts and crafts workshops for the Mexican-American children while the parents study English.

REGION X

WASHINGTON	IDAHO
198 VISTA	52 VISTA
138 UYA	18 UYA
215 FGP	70 FGP
165 SCORE	1151 RSVP
34 ACE	52 SCORE
3212 RSVP	49 ACE
39 SVP	1 SVP

ALASKA	OREGON
43 VISTA	119 VISTA
39 UYA	40 UYA
32 FGP	106 FGP
3059 RSVP	2857 RSVP
21 SCORE	76 SCORE
15 ACE	26 ACE
8 SVP	30 SVP

In a visit to Region X one would find a SCORE chapter involving more than 90 members in Seattle, Wash.; a VISTA project in the coastal town of Newport, Ore. comprised of senior citizens who seek out the isolated elderly; and RSVP volunteers in Orofino, Idaho who planted a garden this spring for residents of a nursing home. In the northernmost state, UYA volunteers from Alaska Methodist University are training 128 Alaskans to become village health aides under the supervision of the Norton Sound Health Corp. in Nome.

Region X has nearly tripled its number of ACTION volunteers in the past year, often through recruitment efforts by volunteers themselves. In Albany, Ore., for instance, two RSVP volunteers traveled through a rural area recruiting more than 70 volunteers.

PLS is an example of a program which began locally and has now expanded to the national level. PLS began last year in South King County, Wash. More than 350 volunteers age 17 to 25 participated in the pilot project. The program was judged such a success that it was expanded throughout the state this year. It is funded cooperatively by ACTION and the state of Washington, and its day-to-day operations have been turned over to the State Office of Volunteer Programs. Before the end of FY 1974, grants were awarded to begin PLS programs in four other ACTION regions.

Significant changes are taking place in the region's UYA programs. At the present time, five are located in Region X. At Western Washington State College, the first steps have been taken by the school administration to institutionalize the program. It has been combined with the human services program under the College of Ethnic Studies. During the coming school year, 100 UYA volunteers at Western Washington will be joined by more than 100

human services students. At Alaska Methodist University, the college has raised sufficient local resources so that each of the UYA volunteers receives a portion of his stipend from the college.

Alaska VISTA volunteers assigned to rural community action programs are performing vital services throughout the state, especially in the pipeline corridor. The pipeline will deliver two million barrels of crude oil a day. It runs almost straight south from North Barrow through the center of the state, pushing close to Fairbanks and terminating in southeast Valdez. One of the major problems the VISTA volunteers are addressing is the impact on small native villages when nearly the entire adult male population leaves to work on the pipeline.

SCORE and ACE volunteers in Alaska have found themselves counseling long hours this year. More requests for SCORE assistance are due to rapidly growing business activity, a result of pipeline construction.

In Oregon, ACTION has developed an integrated volunteer program with Lane County's social services department. The local governmental unit is the controlling agent for all ACTION programs, and sponsors 35 VISTA volunteers and the RSVP. The volunteers are serving throughout the county at nine different locations stretching from the Pacific Ocean to the Cascade Mountains, a distance of about 200 miles.

A few years ago in Nampa and Caldwell, Idaho, a group of citizens sat down to work on their communities' mutual problems. They organized the Community Involvement Programs, Inc. (CIP) and became sponsors of VISTA and RSVP. CIP has expanded from manning a crisis line to operating a Voluntary Action Center and organizing a wide range of senior activities.

In Tacoma, Wash., a VISTA volunteer assigned to the Tacoma Urban League has been responsible for generating more than $25,000 in local resources for a low-income housing renovation project. A unique aspect of the project was the inclusion of volunteers from 3,000 miles away. The VISTA volunteer in Tacoma coordinated efforts with the American Jewish Society for Service (AJSS) in New York.

Sixteen high school age volunteers traveled from the east coast to the west coast to work on the project. Local businessmen donated paint and materials, the National Guard unit provided transportation and cots and many members of the Jewish community opened their homes to the high school volunteers. The city government was very supportive and cut through red tape to allow the project to move at maximum speed.

The same enterprising VISTA volunteer worked with the Puyallup Indian tribe to renovate an abandoned school for use as an Indian center. Indian students worked alongside AJSS volunteers to put the building in shape.

One of the more dramatic stories from Region X combines Indians from the Quinalt reservation and ACE counselors. Through an Economic Development Administration program, and with the help of ACE volunteers, the Quinalts are marketing their harvest of salmon eggs in Japan. Their entire steelhead production is flown daily to the famous Fulton Fish Market in New York City.

The 456 SCORE/ACE volunteers in Region X have served 3,924 clients, most of whom required more than one counseling session. SCORE is part of integrated programming at the Walla Walla State Penitentiary, where SCORE members join VISTA volunteers who are offering legal aid to inmates.

A Mini-Grant program for pre- and post-release counseling at the Monroe, Wash. Reformatory tries to prepare men for finding jobs, with the guidance of SCORE volunteers.

NATIONAL STUDENT VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Phoenix, Ariz. RSVP volunteer teaches a student volunteer how to shop for the homebound elderly.

During the 1973-74 school year, ACTION's National Student Volunteer Program (NSVP) surveyed college-sponsored volunteer programs across the United States. Of the 2,000 questionnaires distributed, 681 were completed and returned. A statistical projection shows that the college student volunteer movement totals more than 2,000 programs involving an estimated 422,600 volunteers.

College volunteers contribute approximately 1.9 million hours of volunteer services each week. These 1.9 million hours a week are equivalent to the work of 47,000 fully employed people. If valued at $2 an hour, college volunteers provided $195 million worth of services to their communities last year. The communities served would not or could not buy these valuable human services.

In addition to the college volunteers, about 60,000 high school students are serving through 600 local programs.

NSVP's purpose is to see that student volunteer programs on high school and college campuses across the country continue to thrive while increasing their quality. This purpose is accomplished by providing pertinent information and assistance to all who ask. A service delivery system, NSVP has no authority over local program activities and does not grant operating funds.

NSVP responds to all requests for written materials, staff consultation and training. During FY 1974, NSVP answered 5,306 individual requests for assistance from college and high school programs, local agencies using student volunteers, national organizations and local, state and federal government agencies.

In answer to over 1,000 requests for consultation, 126 days of on-site assistance were provided by NSVP staff and consultants. All other requests for consultation were handled by telephone or office consultation.

Approximately 840 requests required special technical assistance research and were answered by letter; more than 16,600 copies of one or more of NSVP's 26 technical assistance publications were sent to inquiring volunteers. Altogether, nearly 19,000 pieces of information were mailed from the NSVP offices.

This figure does not include *Synergist*, a journal about and for student volunteers, published three times in FY 1974 for a distribution of 125,000 copies.

In addition to in-house activities, NSVP held skills training labs in eight regions. The labs focused on creating, managing and evaluating college and high school student volunteer programs. The busy staff of four also held a three-day national conference for over 200 college leaders of student volunteer programs and provided staff assistance to various ACTION programs.

INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS

The Peace Corps has concluded its 13th year of service and its third year as part of ACTION with an expansion into six new countries, the maintenance of 8,044 volunteers and trainees overseas, and a 57 per cent increase in host country contributions in support of Peace Corps projects. Countries with Peace Corps programs now number 69, the most in Peace Corps history. For 39 of these countries, the Peace Corps provides the only form of U.S. bilateral assistance. In an era which recognizes the increasing need for global communication and cooperation, the philosophy of the Peace Corps is indeed a relevant and visible approach toward mutual understanding.

Among the U.S. government programs abroad, the Peace Corps occupies a special position because of its strong emphasis on the people-to-people nature of its services to developing countries.

The placement of a volunteer represents a commitment by the Peace Corps and the host country to work together toward mutual goals. The volunteer's immediate goals are to provide services and to transfer his or her skills to a co-worker. By training host country nationals, who in turn pass on their expertise to fellow citizens, the volunteer makes a contribution to the long-term goal of self-sufficiency. In addition, there develops during this process of education, interaction, and change an unusual element of human understanding.

As volunteers help train local citizens, their success often depends on how well they relate to their co-workers. Their job effectiveness and credibility also depend heavily on their ability to converse in the local language, understand foreign customs and adapt to living and working conditions considerably less comfortable than those found at home.

In many developing nations, Peace Corps volunteers are the only foreigners living and working in rural communities. The cross-cultural involvement of the Peace Corps volunteer continues to be a distinctive characteristic and an immeasurable contribution of this very unique government program.

THE NEED CONTINUES

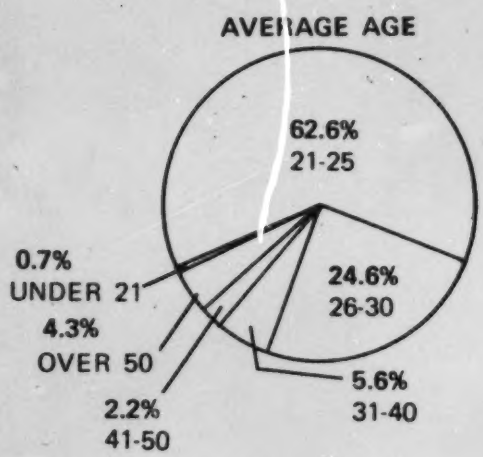
At a Board of Governors meeting of the World Bank in Nairobi, Kenya in September, 1973, the group acknowledged that although the developing nations have made progress in the last decade, growth has not reached the poor. Until the resources of a nation are spread equitably among its citizens it was suggested, development will continue to be felt only by a small minority. The statistics tell the grim story:

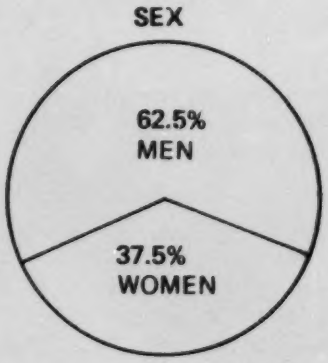
- One-third to one-half of the two *billion* people in developing countries suffer from hunger or malnutrition.
- 20 to 25 per cent of their children die before age five.
- 800 million people are illiterate and even more of their children are likely to be so.

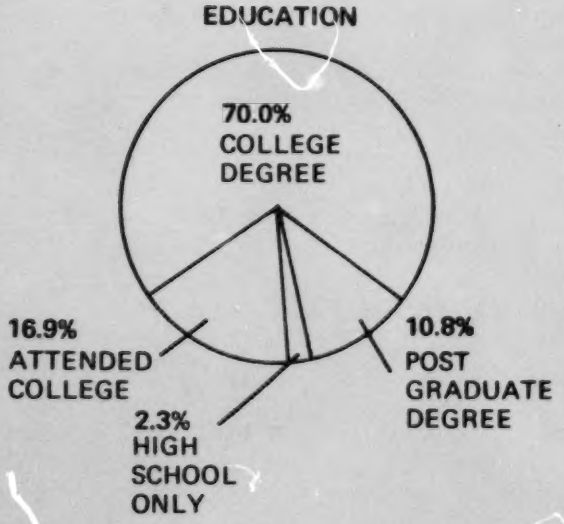
SPECIAL MANDATE REMAINS VITAL

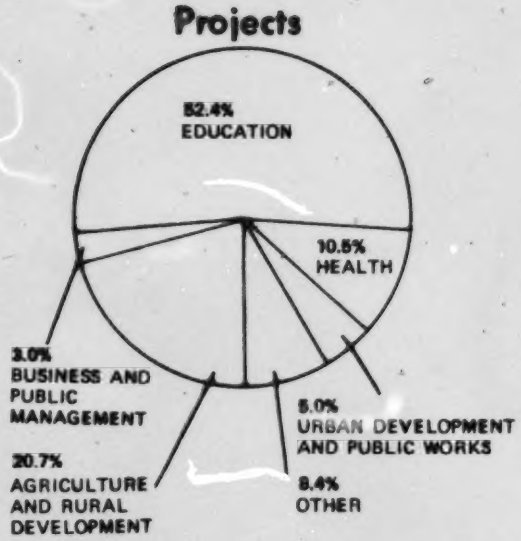
The mandate of the Peace Corps, as stated by Congress in 1961, is "to promote world peace and friendship through a Peace Corps, which shall make available to interested countries and areas men and women of the United States qualified for

Peace Corps Volunteer Profile









service abroad and willing to serve, under conditions of hardship if necessary."

Within this mandate, three goals were set:

". . . to help the peoples of such countries and areas in meeting their needs for trained manpower, to help promote a better understanding of the American people on the part of the peoples served and a better understanding of other peoples on the part of the American people."

The service and spirit which sustain the Peace Corps give it a common bond with the domestic volunteer programs of ACTION. As part of ACTION, the Peace Corps shares the cause of voluntarism and the opportunity for exchange of ideas and experiences.

VOLUNTEER PROFILE

Peace Corps volunteers represent a cross section of the talents of the people of the United States. Volunteers range from skilled blue collar workers with high school degrees to specialists with Ph.D. degrees. In the last four years the number of volunteers age 50 or older has tripled to more than 300, and the average age of a Peace Corps volunteer now is approximately 27 years. The participation of women has increased from 30 per cent of total volunteer strength four years ago to more than 37 per cent.

A Peace Corps agricultural extension volunteer checks an Iranian farmer's progress. A sport coat, no matter how tattered, is a necessary symbol of his position.

PEACE CORPS RESPONSIVENESS

Because of its organizational flexibility and commitment to voluntarism, the Peace Corps is capable of responding to the needs of communities overseas at three distinct stages:

- The majority of the Peace Corps' resources are applied to long-term social and economic developmental needs, with a principal focus at local levels within a nation.
- Following natural disasters, the Peace Corps plays an active role in significant long-range reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts. For example, more than 100 volunteers were working in the African Sahel long before the drought's crisis proportions attracted wide-spread public concern and support. In the near future, close to 300 volunteers will be serving in such activities as wells construction, irrigation, health and nutrition, agricultural extension and education, earthen dam construction and reforestation in the Sahel.
- The Peace Corps also is able to respond quickly to emergency needs when natural disasters, such as the earthquakes in Peru and Nicaragua, occur. Volunteers assist in emergency public services, health facilities, temporary towns administration, child care centers, food distribution and missing persons searches.

AFRICA

TOTAL VOLUNTEERS AND TRAINEES: 2,659

A Malian woman carries a bowl of millet, the country's staple crop.

In Africa today there is one doctor for every 27,500 people. Eighty-five per cent of the continent's vast population is illiterate. In eleven countries per capita income averages less than $150 a year. As many as half the people in Africa's developing nations suffer from hunger or malnutrition. Seven of the ten countries with the most limited food resources in the world are in Africa.

These dismal facts point to Africa's desperate need for assistance in health, education, economics and agriculture. The Peace Corps is deeply committed to helping Africa solve its complex problems.

Circumstances have produced a unique Peace Corps/Africa bond. The majority of African countries gained independence at approximately the same time Peace Corps was born 13 years ago. Although these countries have ancient historical and cultural traditions, the Peace Corps is in a sense a contemporary of the young African nations hosting Peace Corps volunteers.

Another facet of the Peace Corps/Africa relationship is the cultural and ethnic contribution Africa has made to the United States. The American heritage owes more to Africa than any other region in which Peace Corps operates.

Despite widespread inflation and political instability in several countries during FY 1974, the African region:

- Re-established a program in Gabon after an absence of more than five years;
- Sent the first volunteer to the Seychelles;
- Received requests from host governments for 1,880 new volunteers;
- Placed approximately 1,460 new volunteers in the field;
- Reduced the number of early volunteer terminations for the second straight year;
- Undertook new approaches to recruit volunteers with scarce skills in cooperation with ACTION's Office of Recruitment and Communications, certain industrial companies and several universities; and
- Responded to the drought emergency in Africa by working with other donors and host governments to place volunteers in the forefront of the recovery effort.

For administrative purposes, the Peace Corps divides Africa into three sub-regions having common cultural or geographic characteristics: thirteen Francophone nations of west and central Africa, five Anglophone countries in west Africa, and eight eastern and southern African countries including the islands of Mauritius and the Seychelles.

By far the most needy are the Francophone countries. The top priority in each

A California school teacher turned Peace Corps volunteer greets a friend in the market place in Makeni, Sierra Leone.

of these French-speaking countries is agricultural development. The area between the rain forest and the desert is normally the granary of west Africa. However, the tragic seven-year drought has caused serious and widespread shortages.

In FY 1974, the Peace Corps responded to the continuing emergency in the drought-stricken Sahel in collaboration with U.S. and other international donors. By June, 1974, nearly 120 volunteers were involved in long-range reconstruction. Most volunteers serve on emergency relief projects funded by AID. Others are committed to OXFAM, CARE, Catholic Relief and AFRICARE projects.

In Francophone countries not severely affected by the drought, math/science instruction and the teaching of English as a foreign language are important Peace Corps programs. Volunteers also teach at the university level in the Ivory Coast and at teacher training colleges in Zaire.

The Peace Corps maintains a structured rural community development project in Senegal. The project remains successful because the Senegalese government agency responsible for the project is dynamic, well organized, efficiently run and supportive to the volunteers. The Senegalese host agency uses Peace Corps volunteers as "creative outsiders," asking them to concentrate on problems often ignored by villagers and help them find fresh approaches to problem solving.

In countries where terrain and water sources are favorable, fish ponds provide a ready source of protein and additional income for farmers. A successful fisheries project in West Cameroon will serve as a model for a similar project in East Cameroon and subsequently elsewhere in Africa. In Zaire, the Peace Corps paved the way for later groups to help the Zairian government reopen production in thousands of fish ponds that were abandoned when the Belgians left in 1960.

In wells installation projects, volunteers in Niger, Upper Volta and Togo are the organizational link pulling together village labor, paid masons and construction materials provided by the government or an outside source. In Chad, teams of volunteers and Chadian co-workers have been installing small-bore wells since 1967. With continuing support by the government, Peace Corps volunteers will be needed for at least four more years. Peace Corps/Togo revived its wells program with nine new volunteers.

Although the Anglophone countries are comparatively more developed than their Francophone neighbors, agriculture tops their priority list too. Self-sufficiency in rice production is a primary goal in Liberia and Serra Leone. In a Liberian multi-donor project, Peace Corps volunteers head four-man technical teams in rice extension. Team members—a volunteer and three Liberians—assist farmers with technical advice, materials and credit financing.

A similar program in Sierra Leone has increased rice production by 50 per cent through new water control methods.

This Peace Corps volunteer helps Senegalese villagers build wells and latrines and plant vegetable gardens. Here, the local mason puts finishing touches on a family latrine.

Numerous Peace Corps volunteers are engaged in agricultural research aimed at solving many pressing problems. A volunteer in Ghana, for example, is developing a research unit on poultry breeding. Another volunteer prepared a feasibility study for the 70,000-acre Volta Ranch financed by the Ghanaian Agricultural Development Bank.

Skilled trades volunteers are assisting in a priority program to build a fish processing and cold storage plant in Tema, Ghana.

In Rwanda, possibly the poorest country in Africa, needs exist for low-cost housing design and construction, forestry and wildlife management programs. A preliminary agreement was signed in June, 1974, between Rwanda and the United States, setting the stage for Peace Corps programming in FY 1975.

Kenya, Ethiopia and Malawi are emphasizing the training of medical professionals within the structure of established medical schools. Volunteers train nurses and medical assistants and teach pharmacology, physiotherapy, pediatrics, hospital administration and laboratory techniques.

In the south, Swaziland, Lesotho and Botswana stress urban development and public works. Priority goes to rural and urban water systems, sewers, low-cost housing and school construction projects.

LATIN AMERICA

TOTAL VOLUNTEERS AND TRAINEES: 2,613

A Peace Corps volunteer (c.) surveys in a Peruvian village.

The factors which create and maintain poverty—high population growth rates, unemployment and low agricultural production—are present in every Latin American country today.

In the South American republics, food production is not sufficient to meet expanding needs. Therefore, volunteer assistance in agriculture continues to be the Peace Corps' highest priority in South America, with approximately 31 per cent of volunteer strength devoted to agriculture and related projects in rural development and conservation. Volunteers work as soil scientists, farmers, technicians, farm and market economists, cooperative advisors and extension agents.

Acceptance of new concepts in public health, now considered essential to national development, has led to the drafting of national health plans and the adoption of structured reforms in many health ministries. Greater opportunities for Peace Corps programming in the health sector will allow 20 per cent of the South American volunteers to work in health and health-related programs during FY 1975. They will serve as nurse and paramedic trainers, health educators and nutrition advisors. They also will work on disease control and eradication projects.

Recently, several South American countries made a study of the objectives and values of education. Under review are educational systems and methods for training human resources to meet the development needs of the immediate future. About 30 per cent of the volunteers work in education. Over the past several years there has been a decided shift from classroom teaching to teacher training and curriculum development.

Urban areas are experiencing a population increase due to the high population growth rate and rural-to-urban migration. The imbalance between economic development and rapid urbanization has affected the quality of life for many South Americans. The problem is reflected in the inability of urban areas to provide basic public services. Volunteer city planners, managers, architects, engineers, draftsmen and business advisers are providing interim technical assistance to municipal governments until the countries can train enough of their own urban technicians.

Like their sister countries to the south, Central American countries devote much of their efforts to producing food. Limited usable land and a continuing drought throughout much of Central America make adequate food production difficult.

Except in Costa Rica, agriculture contributes more than 75 per cent of the dollar

A Peace Corps volunteer (r.) checks vegetables grown under a multiple cropping system in El Salvador. In this example, cabbage is growing under the corn.

value of exports and employs more than half of the labor force. However, food production lags behind the growth rate in manufacturing and service sectors. Consequently, increased production of both staple and cash crops is Central America's top development priority.

To meet requests for volunteer agriculturists in FY 1975, the Peace Corps will double its FY 1974 commitment. Today, 40 per cent of the volunteers in Central America are involved in agriculture. In addition to direct aid to low and medium income farmers, the Peace Corps is providing technical assistance to cooperatives through volunteers with business backgrounds or cooperative experience.

While national spending in education has risen and literacy rates have improved, about 50 per cent of Central America's population remains illiterate. Educational opportunities are still unavailable for many children. Only half of the primary school teachers are adequately trained, and most rural primary schools do not extend beyond the third or fourth grades.

The Peace Corps is concentrating on in-service teacher training as well as classroom teaching. Throughout Central America, 26 per cent of the volunteers are involved in education.

Because Central America has a traditionally high infant mortality rate and relatively low life expectancy, the health sector is high on the list of development priorities. Twenty per cent of the area's Peace Corps volunteers are providing technical assistance in health care delivery systems,

A personalized course emphasizing nutrition for new babies and mothers is conducted by a Peace Corps volunteer at a hospital clinic in San Tecla, Paraguay.

nurses' training, home nutrition and health education.

Since 1961, when the leeward island of St. Lucia requested volunteers to work in secondary education, the Peace Corps has been involved in the English-speaking Caribbean. Currently, 551 volunteers serve in Belize, Jamaica and seven Eastern Caribbean islands.

English is the common denominator linking these countries. They also share a British colonial tradition and a growing spirit of nationalism and self-determination.

For the first time, the countries' strong interest in education—previously the principal focus of Peace Corps activities in the Caribbean—has been exceeded by the desire to increase agricultural development. The Peace Corps has responded with projects in agricultural and fisheries cooperatives, extension and research. During FY 1974, there were more than 100 volunteers working in the agriculture/rural development area. This expansion trend is expected to increase over the next several years.

The Peace Corps also serves as an important source of skilled technicians in the health and nutrition field.

While the Caribbean countries rely heavily upon the promotion and development of the tourist industry, agriculture and rural development will play an increasing role in the social and economic future of the Caribbean.

NANEAP

TOTAL VOLUNTEERS AND TRAINEES: 2,772

Twilight in Western Samoa.

The North Africa, Near East, Asia and Pacific (NANEAP) region is comprised of 21 countries stretching more than halfway around the world, from Morocco to Western Samoa. It encompasses more than one-fourth of the world's population. Significant differences exist in culture, language, geography and levels of development.

Peace Corps volunteers serve in the deserts of Afghanistan and Iran, in the mountains of Nepal and on the tropical islands of Fiji, Tonga and Western Samoa. Volunteers work in comparatively more developed countries, such as Korea, Malaysia and the Philippines, and in countries considered among the least developed, such as Yemen and Oman.

Throughout the NANEAP region, education programs receive the greatest emphasis. Approximately 70 per cent of the region's volunteers are involved in all levels of education and teach in a wide variety of subject areas. Significant attention also is paid to projects in agriculture, health and nutrition, and the skilled trades.

In Korea, volunteers painstakingly explain the intricacies of the English language to middle school and university students. Empathy for the students is assured as the volunteers themselves try to master the complexities of the Korean language.

A volunteer master plumber in Malaysia teaches his skills at the Industrial Training Institute, conducting classes entirely in the Malay language.

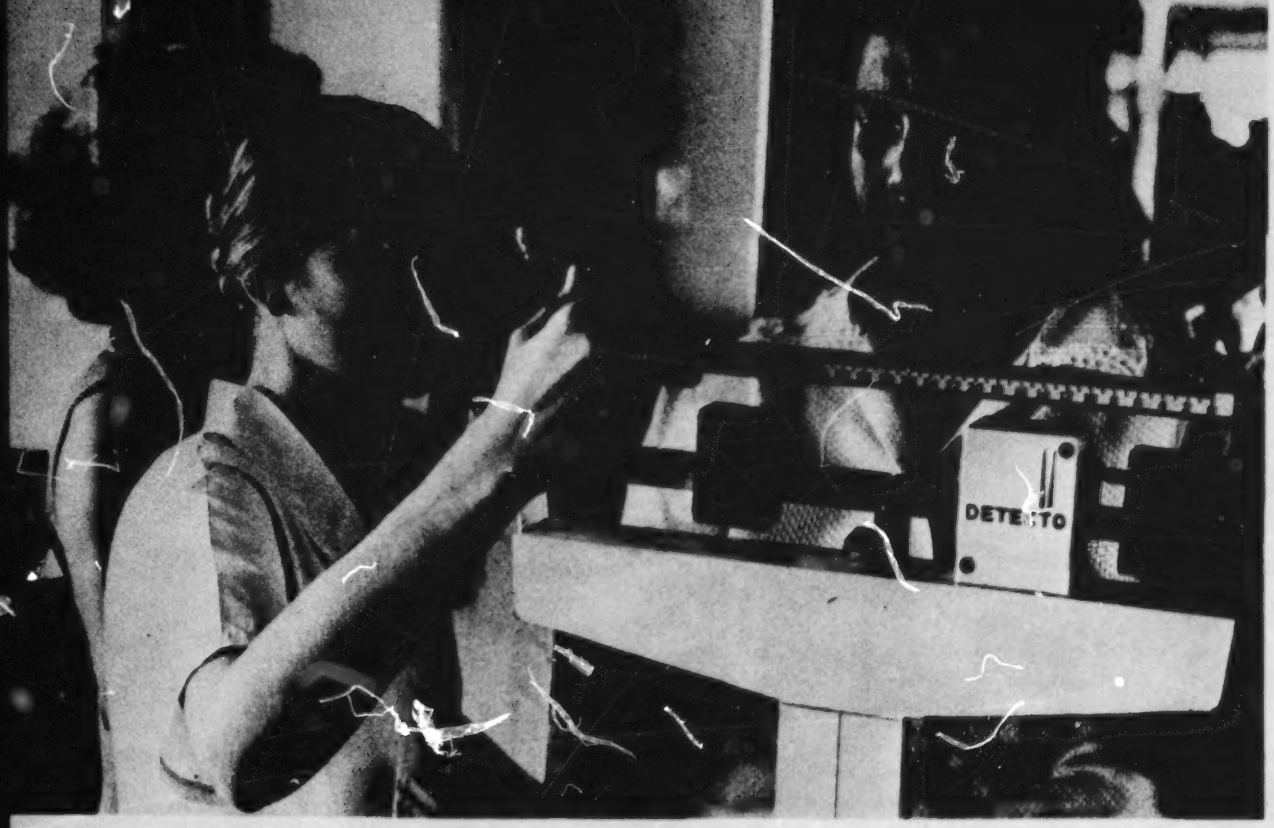
Volunteers instructing medical students in Afghanistan use an English textbook prepared by a Peace Corps volunteer a few years ago.

Agriculture and rural development projects require patience, language facility and the ability to find job satisfaction in situations which do not yield immediate results. Volunteers in Nepal, the Philippines and India are working to ensure the continued success of fisheries projects.

In Nepal, for example, volunteers act as fisheries extension agents in the Terai plains region and train local fish farmers in the maintenance of fish ponds with striking results.

In the Rajasthan fisheries extension project in India, volunteers are surveying the ponds being used and the best types of fish for them. The project includes a study of 50 permanent and 800 seasonal reservoirs.

All Peace Corps volunteers in the fisheries project in the Philippines have degrees in fisheries management. Through their assistance with predator control and proper use of fertilizer, fish pond yields are multiplying dramatically. The fertilizer encourages algae growth which provides



A busy hospital pre-natal clinic in Tonga's capital is staffed by a Peace Corps volunteer nurse, who checks the weight of an expectant mother.

plentiful food for the fish.

In Iran, volunteers have developed a soils analysis project and planned three environmental projects which will be operational in FY 1975. These new projects will utilize biologists, engineers and ecologists in air and water pollution control, pesticides management, parks and wildlife management and soil conservation programs. The Office of Ecology of the Smithsonian Institution is assisting the Peace Corps in this comprehensive effort.

Health volunteers are serving as rural extension workers on islands in the Pacific and supervising tuberculosis and leprosy control programs in Korea. Since the Korean tuberculosis prevention and treatment program began in 1967, Peace Corps volunteers have trained more than 4,800 health workers who, in turn, have treated 60,000 patients.

A 65-year-old nurse in Afghanistan is serving her sixth year as a Peace Corps volunteer. She has started five family health centers in her host country.

During FY 1974, the Peace Corps moved into four new countries within the NANEAP region. Volunteers with skills in health, agriculture and education were requested by Bahrain and Oman, while a dozen volunteers with backgrounds in architecture, education and public works began service in Yemen. The Gilbert and Ellice Islands also received their first volunteers in FY 1974.

MULTILATERAL PROGRAMS

Congress gave to the Peace Corps in 1963 the responsibility for fostering and participating in multilateral volunteer efforts. This responsibility is carried out by the Office of Multilateral and Special Programs, which provides support to multilateral voluntary activities carried on by several organizations.

Most important of these organizations is the United Nations Volunteer Program. This program functions under the aegis of the United Nations Development Program and has grown steadily from its inception in 1970 to a present on-board strength of 220. UN volunteers from 43 nations work in projects of specialized UN agencies, functioning as a bridge between UN technical experts and the people and institutions that UN efforts are designed to assist.

U.S. citizens who participate in this program are sponsored by the Peace Corps. They are Peace Corps volunteers permanently assigned to the UN and under the supervision of the UN.

Other organizations supported in part by the Peace Corps are the International Secretariat for Volunteer Service (ISVS), which provides assistance to national and international volunteer programs, and the International Voluntary Services (IVS), a small private organization which recruits volunteers on a worldwide basis for its programs in 12 countries.

The Peace Corps also participates in the Joint Volunteer Committee of Ghana along with representatives of Ghanaian, German, Canadian and British volunteer organizations. A series of rural health posts is staffed with volunteers from these five countries. The Joint Volunteer Committee serves as a model for future development of multilateral teams.

A Peace Corps volunteer runs UNICEF operations in Mauritania. Here he visits an artisan's center where refugee women are trained in rug-weaving. UNICEF provides three year scholarships for the mothers and a day nursery for their children.

SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

The School Partnership Program is a unique self-help program which provides material support to Peace Corps volunteers and the host country communities in which they are working through private donations from organizations and individuals in the U.S. The donations pay for materials to build schools and other facilities which are beyond the means of small villages. The construction materials are purchased directly by the volunteer, while the community donates the land and the labor. The self-help program is the only means through which the Peace Corps can provide commodity assistance.

The availability of funds through the School Partnership Program encourages Peace Corps volunteers to initiate self-help activities in their communities. This program also provides an additional opportunity for Peace Corps volunteers to become integrally involved with the people among whom they live and work.

The program began in 1965 when Congress amended the Peace Corps Act to enable the Agency to receive gifts of money and material. Since that time, more than $2 million has been contributed to the program and more than 50 countries have benefited.

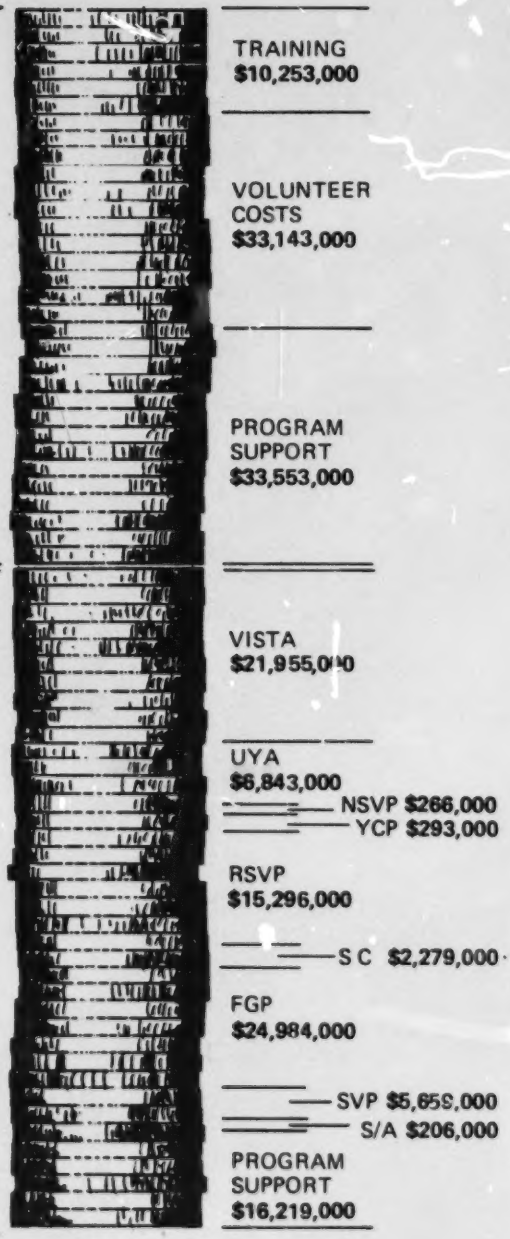
Last year's School Partnership Program provided Peace Corps volunteers in 30 countries with funds to purchase construction materials for community self-help projects such as schools, dispensaries and wells. Host country and U.S. contributions totaled $432,525. The host countries supplied $272,118 or 63 per cent of the material support. American schools, churches and civic groups contributed $160,407.

More than 100 partnership alliances were formed during FY 1974. Each project is a special story for its participants, but the following examples convey the spirit of the exchange.

- Students at Charlton County High School near Fokston, Ga. won the Best Project Award from the Georgia Assn. of Student Councils for their efforts to build a rural health center in the Philippines.
- St. Paul's Lutheran Church and the civic organizations of Carlisle, Pa. raised $8,000 to help a hometown Peace Corps volunteer build a high school in Kananga, Zaire.
- The grade school students of West Linn, Ore. worked for three years to fund a village school in Carpuela, Ecuador.

Approximately 90 per cent of the projects were village schools such as the one in Ecuador. However, School Partnership participants also helped to fund a town water system in Janopul, the Philippines; a road to the village market in Vallecitos, Honduras; and 20 grain storage silos in Dahomey, West Africa.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FY 1974



VISTA - Volunteers In Service To America
UYA - University Year for ACTION
NSVP - National Student Volunteer Program
YCP - Youth Challenge Program
RSVP - Retired Senior Volunteer Program
SC - Senior Companion Program
FGP - Foster Grandparent Program
S/A - Service Corps of Retired Executives/ Active Corps of Executives

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